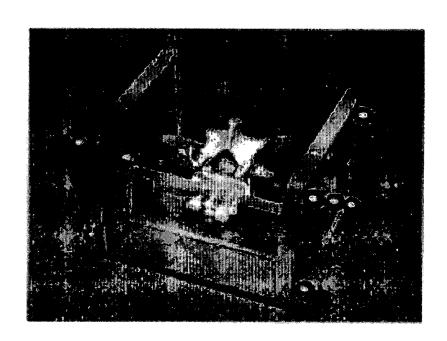
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## FIGURE 1

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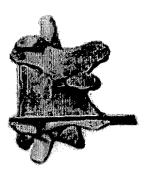


FIGURE 2



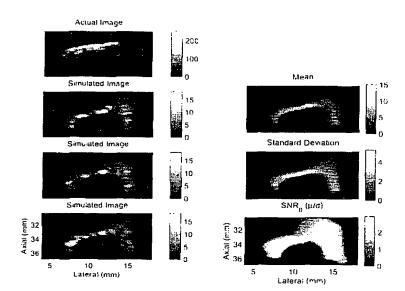
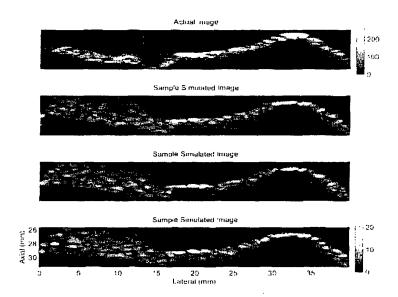


FIGURE 3

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**FIGURE 4** 

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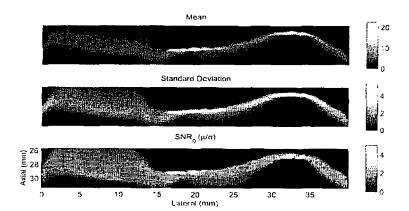


FIGURE 5



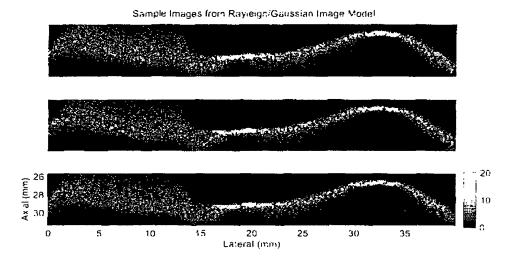


FIGURE 6



Creating a representative physical model of image formation

Creating a random phasor sum representation of the physical model to form the probabilistic model



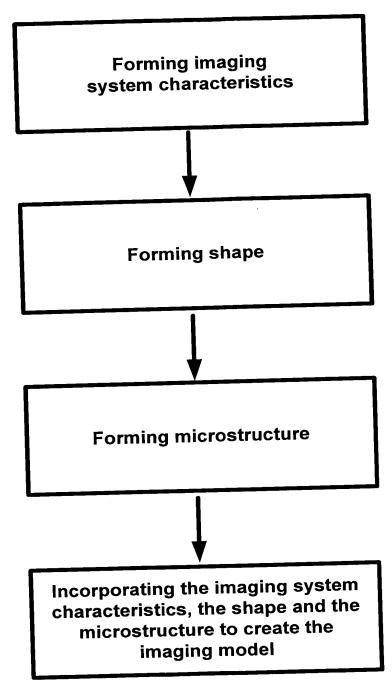


FIGURE 8



Computing an amplitude mean value, an amplitude variance value and a ratio of the amplitude mean to a standard deviation value at each image pixel to develop a statistical image characterizing tissue Classifying each image pixel as Rayleigh or Gaussian depending on the ratio of the amplitude mean to the standard deviation value Assigning a density function to each image pixel based upon the classification of each image pixel Constructing the data likelihood as a product of the density functions

FIGURE 9



Creating a representative physical model of image formation including: Developing a deterministic description of imaging system characteristics Developing a deterministic description of gross shape Developing a random description of microstructure Incorporating the imaging system characteristics, the gross shape and the microstructure to form the physical model Creating a random phasor sum representation of the physical model to form the probabilistic model

FIGURE 10

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